

City of Bainbridge Island

I DIDN'T REPRODUCE DAY PROCLAMATION (DRAFT)

A PROCLAMATION by the Mayor of the City of Bainbridge Island, Washington, declaring the 3rd Sunday in June as “I Didn’t Reproduce Day”.

WHEREAS, human beings are part of a larger community of living creatures and natural systems inhabiting Planet Earth, also referred to as the biosphere; and

WHEREAS, the continued health and wellbeing of humans is very much dependent upon the overall health of Earth’s biosphere; and

WHEREAS, many scientists believe that Earth has entered a new geological age, called the *Anthropocene* period, during which human activity has become the dominant influence on Earth’s climate and environment; and

WHEREAS, the Anthropocene is directly related in turn to the “Sixth Extinction”, with the current rate of species disappearing from the planet estimated at 100 to 1,000 times higher than natural background rates, and with human overpopulation and profligate consumption considered to be the primary causes; and

WHEREAS, the Earth’s human population is currently around 7.5 billion and is growing by about 220,000 humans per day; and

WHEREAS, we have special days to honor mothers and fathers for their contributions to society, while so-called “childless” members of society have traditionally been stigmatized for failing or choosing not to reproduce; and

WHEREAS, human beings who defer or abstain from procreation make a special contribution to humanity and to our biosphere, including with each deferred human birth preventing 900 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions into the Earth’s atmosphere, and for their contribution by omission deserve their own special day of appreciation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kol Medina, Mayor of the City of Bainbridge Island, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim the 3rd Sunday of June as

I DIDN'T REPRODUCE DAY

in the City of Bainbridge Island, and urge all Islanders to join me in this special observance.

DATED this _____

Kol Medina, Mayor